Foreword

This volume contains the proceedings of the Twentieth Annual IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS 2005). It consists of five papers or abstracts based on invited talks and 44 contributed papers that were selected by the Program Committee for presentation at the symposium.

The 44 contributed papers were selected from 127 submissions. As in 2004, we decided to run the conference for four full days in order to accommodate the many excellent papers that were received. As usual, there were more good papers than could be accepted. One very pleasant sign was the number of student papers received by the Program Committee.

The Program Committee did not meet in person, but carried out extensive discussions using the EasyChair system designed and implemented by Andrei Voronkov. We are very grateful to him for free use of this very good system. The discussions took place over a period of almost two weeks after the initial reviews of the submitted papers were completed.

Most of the papers in this volume are “extended abstracts,” and many are preliminary reports on work in progress. While they have been read by Program Committee members, they have not been formally refereed. It is expected that much of the research described in these papers will appear in more polished and complete form in scholarly journals.

An important and pleasant task of the Program Committee was the selection of the best student paper. From a strong pool of several excellent student papers, the Program Committee selected the paper “Existential Positive Types and Preservation under Homomorphisms” by Benjamin Rossman as the winner of the 2005 Kleene Award for Best Student Paper. This was in fact not just the best student paper but the highest rated paper overall! On behalf of the Program Committee, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the author. This is the second Kleene award for Benjamin Rossman, who also won the 2003 Kleene Award.

I wish to thank all the authors who submitted papers for consideration. The quality of the submissions testifies to the health of the LICS research community. The members of the Program Committee worked very hard to review as thoroughly as possible the papers submitted. They also participated in sometimes extensive discussions on the papers after the reviews were in. I also wish to thank all those colleagues, listed separately, who contributed to the reviewing process as external reviewers.

Special thanks go to Radhakrishnan Jagadeesan and Alan Jeffrey for their efforts as LICS 2005 Conference Chairs, Alex K. Simpson for his contributions as LICS Publicity Chair, and Phil Scott for his work as LICS 2005 Workshops Chair. I would also like to thank Samson Abramsky and Phokion Kolaitis, past and present LICS organizing committee chairs, for their advice at all stages of my task as PC chair.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge and thank the sponsoring organizations and institutions for their support. Many thanks to DePaul University and Lucent Technologies for their encouragement of the local organizers. The organizers would especially like to thank Geri Kupiek, Anthony Zoko, and Tim Gebhardt of DePaul University for making sure everything ran smoothly. I would like to thank Andrei Voronkov for free use of the EasyChair system. I also thank Andrew Bogecho and Ron Simpson for maintaining the machines on which we ran EasyChair and making sure everything worked on time. Generous support for LICS 2005 was provided by Forall Systems and IBM.

Prakash Panangaden
LICS 2005 Program Chair